

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing these comments to the FCC because of proposed rule changes that I have become aware of. I am a supporter of AIR1 Radio, based in California but broadcasted nationwide. Air 1 has been a positive influence in my family's life. They carry a positive Christian message that is safe for the whole family to listen to. They are a commercial-free radio station because they are a non-profit organization that is completely listener supported. This is important to acknowledge that they operate because people listen and want them to be on the air, not based on commercial advertising. Therefore they are supported financially by grassroots people who care about what they do and are personally committed to the station.

I read through the Report on Broadcast Localism and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. I would like to express my opinion on the general discussion in the report. I don't feel that there is any reason for anyone to be concerned about a station like Air 1 who operates stations remotely. The idea that they don't meet local community needs or that they are disconnected is an unfounded idea. They have Regional Managers that do connect with local supporters of the Air 1 network. They also have a small news segment which covers stories from around the country. There have been several news stories about events in my county and region of the state (Kentucky). They accept news tips from local people in communities across the country and report with honesty and in an unbiased manner. Let me again refer to the fact that they are a non-profit listener supported station. That fact alone should vouch for their relevance and connection to local communities! If they were not well connected and relevant to the needs and desires of local communities, they would cease to broadcast because people would not support them financially! People like us support Air 1 out of their own pocket because we appreciate all that they do. They employ a few full-time pastors who are available to counsel listeners by phone and pray with them. They help get the word out about humanitarian organizations that are worthy of support. They allow listeners to comment on the music they play and thus influence what they play. Do I need to go on?

The proposed rule changes could negatively affect my favorite radio station in three ways:

1—Requiring community advisory boards. As I stated above, Air 1 is listener supported so that dynamic alone serves as an advisory board!

2—Requiring additional staffing. This would be a burden on Air 1 that would make it hard for them to operate and reach as many people as they do so effectively.

3—Force Many of Their Translator Stations Off The Air—Please do not give priority to Low Power FM stations over existing translator stations.

I know I have said enough. Thanks for reading my comments. Please do not enact the proposed rule changes.

Sincerely,

Charlie Thomas,

Berea, KY